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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the drawing sheet including Figures 1-4 with the attached Replacement Sheet.

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REMARKS/DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected pending claims 1-10 on various grounds and found claims 3, 5, and 9 allowable if rewritten to overcome objections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to include limitations of intervening and base claims. Claims 1, 4-7, 9, and 10 have been amended, claims 2 and 3 cancelled, and claims 11-22 added herein. The Applicant responds to each rejection as subsequently recited herein, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application:

Drawings

A. The Examiner objected to Figures 1 and 4 as lacking a legend such as --Prior Art--.

Figures 1 and 4 have been changed to include the legend --Prior Art--. Withdrawal of the objection to Figures 1 and 4 is respectfully requested.

<u>Abstract</u>

B. The Examiner objected to the Abstract for including legal phraseology.

The Abstract has been amended to replace the phrase "said" with the phrase "the." Withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is respectfully requested.

Informalities

C. The Examiner objected to the disclosure for nonstandard use of decimals.

The paragraph beginning on page 1, line 22, has been replaced to remove the comma used as a decimal. The limitations of claim 3 have been written into independent claim 1 and claim 3 has been cancelled. Withdrawal of the objection to the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 22, and claim 3 is respectfully requested.

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35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

D. The Examiner rejected claims 3-7, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 4-7, 9, and 10 have been amended herein to overcome the objection and not to avoid any cited reference. The limitations of claim 3 have been written into independent claim 1 and claim 3 has been cancelled. Withdrawal of the objection to the claims 3-7, 9, and 10 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102

E. The Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,981,546 to *Sperman*.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable-but-objected-to claim 3 into independent claim 1, so that claim 1 is allowable over *Sperman*, and claim 3 has been cancelled. Claims 4-9 and 10 depend from independent claim 1 and include all of the elements and limitations of independent claim 1. The Applicant asserts that the dependent claims are allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1.

Claim 2 has been cancelled herein to reduce the number of claims and not to overcome the cited reference.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 4-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Sperman* is respectfully requested.

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New Claims

F. Claims 11-22 have been added herein.

Independent claim 11 has been added to incorporate the limitations of allowable-but-objected-to claim 5 into independent claim 1, so that claim 11 is allowable. Independent claim 17 has been added to incorporate the limitations of allowable-but-objected-to claim 9 into independent claim 1, so that claim 17 is allowable. Claims 12-16 and claims 18-22 depend from independent claims 11 and 17, respectively. Therefore, the dependent claims include all of the elements and limitations of their respective independent claims. The Applicant asserts that the dependent claims are allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as their respective independent claims. No new matter has been added with the addition of new claims 11-22, which are supported in the specification at least on pages 1-5.

Consideration and allowance of claims 11-22 is respectfully requested.

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SUMMARY

The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 4-22 as listed herein fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103, and 112. In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: <u>June 6, 2007</u>

Respectfully submitted, THEO ANJES MARIA RUIJL

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